

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	i
LIST OF FIGURES	iii
LIST OF TABLES	v
LIST OF APPENDIX TABLES	vi
INTRODUCTION	1
METHODS AND MATERIALS	3
Overview of Study Area and Design	3
Sample Collection	3
Sample Extraction and Preparation	4
PCB Congener Analysis	5
Otolith Analysis	5
Percent Water and Organic Carbon of Sediments	6
Analytical Quality Assurance	6
Statistical and Mathematical Data Analyses	6
RESULTS	8
Summary and Qualification of Data	8
Fish Characteristics	9
Core Studies	9
Variability Studies	10
Calculation of BCFs, BSAFs and PPRs	11
Principal Component Analysis of Congeneric Patterns	11
DISCUSSION	14
Species and Zonal Differences in t-PCBs	14
Quantifying Trophic Transfer through BCFs, BSAFs and PPRs	14
Congeneric Pattern Differences	17
CONCLUSIONS	19
REFERENCES	20
FIGURES	23
TABLES	73
APPENDIX I	133

LIST OF FIGURES

	<u>Page</u>
Figure 1. Schematic of the biotic and abiotic phases collected and analyzed for PCBs	23
Figure 2. Characteristics of channel catfish and white perch	24
Figure 3. Map of the Delaware River estuary showing the six zones established by DRBC . . .	25
Figure 4. Map of locations of samples in Zone 2.	26
Figure 5. Map of locations of samples in Zone 3	27
Figure 6. Map of locations of samples in Zone 4	28
Figure 7. Map of locations of samples in Zone 5	29
Figure 8. Total length versus age for collected channel catfish and white perch	30
Figure 9. Total PCBs (based on wet weight and lipid normalized concentrations) grouped according to zone collected for fall biota	31
Figure 10. Total PCBs (based on wet weight and lipid normalized concentrations) grouped according to zone collected for spring biota	32
Figure 11. Total PCBs (based on wet weight and lipid normalized concentrations) grouped according to species for fall biota	33
Figure 12. Total PCBs (based on wet weight and lipid normalized concentrations) grouped according to species for spring biota.	34
Figure 13. Zonal and species variation in total PCBs (lipid normalized concentrations) for fall biota	35
Figure 14. Zonal and species variation in total PCBs (based on wet weight and lipid normalized concentrations) for spring biota	36
Figure 15. Zonal differences in sedimentary PCB concentrations for fall and spring collections (both on a dry weight and OC normalized basis)	37
Figure 16. Variability in t-PCB channel catfish concentrations (lipid normalized) for fall collected (top) and spring (bottom) variability studies	38
Figure 17. Individual fillet concentrations (wet weight and lipid normalized) for catfish from Zone 2 (fall)	39
Figure 18. Individual fillet concentrations (wet weight and lipid normalized) for catfish from Zone 4 (fall)	40
Figure 19. Individual fillet concentrations (wet weight and lipid normalized) for catfish from Zone 5 (fall)	41
Figure 20. Individual fillet concentrations (wet weight and lipid normalized) for catfish from Zone 2 (spring)	42
Figure 21. Individual fillet concentrations (wet weight and lipid normalized) for catfish from Zone 4 (spring)	43
Figure 22. Individual fillet concentrations (wet weight and lipid normalized) for catfish from Zone 5 (spring)	44
Figure 23. Variability in t-PCB white perch concentrations (lipid normalized) for fall collected variability study within three regions of Zone 5.	45
Figure 24. Individual fillet concentrations (wet weight and lipid normalized) for perch from region 1 in Zone 5 (fall)	46

Figure 25. Individual fillet concentrations (wet weight and lipid normalized) for catfish from region 2 in Zone 5 (fall)	47
Figure 26. Individual fillet concentrations (wet weight and lipid normalized) for catfish from region 3 in Zone 5 (fall)	48
Figure 27. Total congeneric bioconcentration factors (BCFs).	49
Figure 28. Total biota-sediment accumulation factors (BSAF) for channel catfish (CC), white perch (WP), prey fish (PF) and invertebrates (INV) collected from the Delaware River estuary in Fall 2001 and Spring 2002. The dotted line indicates the mean of species-specific median BSAF values.	50
Figure 29. Predator/Prey Ratios of lipid normalized total PCBs from biota collected in the Delaware River estuary in Fall 2001 and Spring 2002.	51
Figure 30. Principal component cross-plot for whole fish and prey items treating fall and spring separately	52
Figure 31. Reduced principal component cross-plot for whole fish and prey items treating generated by average values from both seasons	53
Figure 32. Principal component eigenvectors (weightings) for principal component 1 (PC1) and 2 (PC2)	54
Figure 33. Zonal differences in the fractional (normalized to total wet weight concentrations) contribution from each homologue group for fall and spring collected channel catfish	55
Figure 34. Zonal differences in the fractional (normalized to total wet weight concentrations) contribution from each homologue group for fall and spring collected white perch	56
Figure 35. Zonal differences in the fractional (normalized to total wet weight concentrations) contribution from each homologue group for fall and spring collected invertebrates	57
Figure 36. Zonal differences in the fractional (normalized to total wet weight concentrations) contribution from each homologue group for fall and spring collected small prey fish	58
Figure 37. Zonal differences in the fractional (normalized to total wet weight concentrations) contribution from each homologue group for fall and spring collected sediment	59
Figure 38. Zonal differences in fractional contribution of PCB congener 209 for fall and spring collected biota	60
Figure 39. Zonal differences in PCB congener 209 lipid-normalized concentrations for fall and spring collected channel catfish and white perch	61
Figure 40. Bioconcentration factors (BCF) vs. $\log K_{ow}$ for individual PCB congeners in channel catfish collected from the Delaware River estuary, USA in Fall 2001 and Spring 2002. Regression analysis of BCF values vs. $\log K_{ow}$ values gave a linear regression of $\log BCF = 0.34 * \log K_{ow} + 4.81$ ($R = 0.49$, $P < 0.0001$)	62
Figure 41. Bioconcentration factors (BCF) vs. $\log K_{ow}$ for individual PCB congeners in white perch collected from the Delaware River estuary, USA in Fall 2001 and Spring 2002. Regression analysis of BCF values vs. $\log K_{ow}$ values gave a linear regression of $\log BCF = 0.25 * \log K_{ow} + 5.24$ ($R = 0.35$, $P < 0.0001$).	63

Figure 42. Bioconcentration factors (BCF) vs. $\log K_{ow}$ for individual PCB congeners in prey fish collected from the Delaware River estuary, USA in Fall 2001 and Spring 2002. Regression analysis of BCF values vs. $\log K_{ow}$ values gave a PCB linear regression of $\log BCF = 0.31 * \log K_{ow} + 4.88$ ($R = 0.44$, $P < 0.0001$)	64
Figure 43. Bioconcentration factors (BCF) vs. $\log K_{ow}$ for individual PCB congeners in invertebrates collected from the Delaware River estuary, USA in Fall 2001 and Spring 2002. Regression analysis of BCF values vs. $\log K_{ow}$ values a PCB linear regression of $\log BCF = 0.14 * \log K_{ow} + 5.92$ ($R = 0.20$, $P = 0.0001$)	65
Figure 44. Biota-sediment accumulation factors (BSAFs) vs. $\log K_{ow}$ for individual PCB congeners in channel catfish collected from the Delaware River estuary, USA in Fall 2001 and Spring 2002. PCB linear regression: $BSAF = 1.06 * \log K_{ow} + 3.23$ ($R = 0.08$, $P = 0.08$); PCB quadratic regression: $BSAF = -2.83 * \log K_{ow}^2 + 37.98 * \log K_{ow} - 115.22$ ($R = 0.20$, $P < 0.0001$)	66
Figure 45. Biota-sediment accumulation factors (BSAFs) vs. $\log K_{ow}$ for individual PCB congeners in white perch collected from the Delaware River estuary, USA in Fall 2001 and Spring 2002. PCB linear regression: $BSAF = -0.33 * \log K_{ow} + 10.75$ ($R = 0.02$, $P = 0.62$); PCB quadratic regression: $BSAF = -3.35 * \log K_{ow}^2 + 43.37 * \log K_{ow} - 129.43$ ($R = 0.20$, $P < 0.0001$)	67
Figure 46. Biota-sediment accumulation factors (BSAFs) vs. $\log K_{ow}$ for individual PCB congeners in prey fish collected from the Delaware River estuary, USA in Fall 2001 and Spring 2002. PCB linear regression: $BSAF = -0.17 * \log K_{ow} + 10.2$ ($R = 0.01$, $P = 0.83$); PCB quadratic regression: $BSAF = -2.94 * \log K_{ow}^2 + 38.20 * \log K_{ow} - 112.82$ ($R = 0.16$, $P = 0.0021$)	68
Figure 47. Biota-sediment accumulation factors (BSAFs) vs. $\log K_{ow}$ for individual PCB congeners in invertebrates collected from the Delaware River estuary, USA in Fall 2001 and Spring 2002. PCB linear regression: $\log BSAF = -0.51 * \log K_{ow} + 12.01$ ($R = 0.03$, $P = 0.49$); PCB quadratic regression: $\log BSAF = -2.36 * \log K_{ow}^2 + 30.32 * \log K_{ow} - 86.94$ ($R = 0.13$, $P = 0.013$)	69
Figure 48. Lipid normalized predator/prey ratios vs. $\log K_{ow}$ for individual PCB congeners for channel catfish/prey fish collected from the Delaware River estuary, USA in Fall 2001 and Spring 2002. The line represents a 1:1 ratio, indicating no bioaccumulation of PCBs from prey to predator	70
Figure 49. Lipid normalized predator/prey ratios vs. $\log K_{ow}$ for individual PCB congeners for channel catfish/invertebrates collected from the Delaware River estuary, USA in Fall 2001 and Spring 2002. The line represents a 1:1 ratio, indicating no bioaccumulation of PCBs from prey to predator	71
Figure 50. Lipid normalized predator/prey ratios vs. $\log K_{ow}$ for individual PCB congeners for white perch/invertebrates collected from the Delaware River estuary, USA in Fall 2001 and Spring 2002. The line represents a 1:1 ratio, indicating no bioaccumulation of PCBs from prey to predator	72

LIST OF TABLES

	<u>Page</u>
Table 1. Location of biota and sediment collections for fall 2001	73
Table 2. Location of biota and sediment collections for spring 2001	74
Table 3. Summary of channel catfish samples from fall 2001 collections/analyses	75
Table 4. Summary of channel catfish samples from spring 2001 collections/analyses	77
Table 5. Summary of white perch samples from fall 2001 collections/analyses	79
Table 6. Summary of white perch samples from spring 2001 collections/analyses	81
Table 7. Summary of prey fish samples from fall 2001 collections/analyses	82
Table 8. Summary of prey fish samples from spring 2001 collections/analyses	83
Table 9. Summary of invertebrate samples from fall 2001 collections/analyses	84
Table 10. Summary of invertebrate samples from spring 2001 collections/analyses	84
Table 11. Summary of sediment samples for fall 2001 collections/analyses	85
Table 12. Summary of sediment samples for spring 2001 collections/analyses	85
Table 13. Summary of all data (blank cells represent ND, BDL, or NA)	86
Table 14. Results from the variability studies	131
Table 15. Bioconcentration (BCF) factors and biota-sediment accumulation (BSAF) factors for total PCB concentrations in biota collected in the Delaware River estuary in Fall 2001 and Spring 2002. Average log BCFs and BSAFs are reported with standard deviations, SD	132

LIST OF APPENDIX I TABLES

	<u>Page</u>
Table A-1. PCB concentrations in Channel Catfish (ng/g) from Fall 2001 Core Study	133
Table A-2. PCB concentrations in Channel Catfish (ng/g) from Fall 2001 Variability Study .	139
Table A-3. PCB concentrations in Channel Catfish (ng/g) from Spring 2002 Core Study	148
Table A-4. PCB concentrations in Channel Catfish (ng/g) from Spring 2002 Variability Study	157
Table A-5. PCB concentrations in White Perch (ng/g) from Fall 2001 Core Study	166
Table A-6. PCB concentrations in White Perch (ng/g) from Fall 2001 Variability Study 1 . . .	172
Table A-7. PCB concentrations in White Perch (ng/g) from Fall 2001 Variability Study 2 . . .	175
Table A-8. PCB concentrations in White Perch (ng/g) from Fall 2001 Variability Study 3 . . .	178
Table A-9. PCB concentrations in White Perch (ng/g) from Spring 2002 Core Study	181
Table A-10. PCB concentrations in Prey Fish (ng/g) from Fall 2001 Core Study	187
Table A-11. PCB concentrations in Prey Fish (ng/g) from Fall 2001 Variability Study	193
Table A-12. PCB concentrations in Prey Fish (ng/g) from Spring 2002 Core Study	195
Table A-13. PCB concentrations in Prey Fish (ng/g) from Spring 2002 Variability Study . . .	201
Table A-14. PCB concentrations in Invertebrates (ng/g) from Fall 2001 Core Study	203
Table A-15. PCB concentrations in Invertebrates (ng/g) from Fall 2001 Variability Study . . .	205
Table A-16. PCB concentrations in Invertebrates (ng/g) from Spring 2002 Core Study	207
Table A-17. PCB concentrations in Invertebrates (ng/g) from Spring 2002 Variability Study	210
Table A-18. PCB concentrations in Sediments (ng/g) from Fall 2001 Core Study	212
Table A-19. PCB concentrations in Sediments (ng/g) from Fall 2001 Variability Study	218
Table A-20. PCB concentrations in Sediments (ng/g) from Spring 2002 Core Study	224
Table A-21. PCB concentrations in Sediments (ng/g) from Spring 2002 Variability Study . . .	230